Michigan State Parks - Recreation 101 Events

Your Michigan state parks and recreation areas offer so much to do you won't know where to start! That's why we created the "GO-Get Outdoors" Recreation 101 series of events. These programs have been designed to help you get started with fishing, hiking, biking, paddling, horseback riding and more. This list is just a few of the events you can experience with your family or on your own. So, gather 'round the campfire and start planning for your best summer yet!

Fishing 101

June 12-13

Free Fishing Weekend

For two weekends each year (Winter/Summer), anyone can fish without a license. For more information, visit www.michigan.gov/fishing.

Saturday, June 12

Kids Free Fishing Pond Baraga State Park

Free Fishing Festival Bay City State Recreation Area

Youth Fishing Contest Cheboygan Field Office

Free Fishing Weekend Clear Lake State Park

Free Fishing Event Onaway State Park

Fishing Clinic Otsego Lake State Park

Spring Fishing Derby Seven Lakes State Park

Kid's Fishing Tournament Young State Park

Tuesday evenings, June 15-August 15

Fishing in the Park-Fishing Frenzy Program Holland State Park

Saturday, August 7

Hook'n Up Hero's Fishing Event Newaygo State Park

Fitness 101

Wednesday, June 16

Water Skiing Class Dodge #4 State Park

Saturday, June 19

Health & Safety Days Bay City State Recreation Area

Saturday, June 26

Beach Wellness Volleyball Tournament Bay City State Recreation Area

Saturday-Sunday, June 26-27

Soccer in the Sand Grand Haven State Park

Late June-mid August

Yoga in the Parks Charles Mears State Park

Saturdays, July-August

Yoga on the Beach P.H. Hoeft State Park

Saturday, August 7

5K Run/Walk Newaygo State Park

Pilates in the Park

Holland State Park Call for details

Yoga Classes

Otsego Lake State Park Call for details

Geo-caching 101

Saturday, August 28

Geocacheathon P.H. Hoeft State Park

Saturday, September 18

Geocaching in the Keweenaw Fort Wilkins State Park

Kayaking 101

Saturday, June 12

Intro to Canoeing & Kayaking Clear Lake State Park

Intro to Kayaking Waterloo Recreation Area Mears State Park

Paddle Demo Mitchell State Park

Kayak Paddle Port Crescent State Park

Saturday June 19

Intro to Kayaking Sleepy Hollow State Park

ORV/ATV 101

Saturday-Sunday, September 11-12

Bombardier ATV Demo Rides Silver Lake State Park

Outdoor Cooking 101

Saturday, June 19

Campers Chili Cook-Off Seven Lakes State Park

Saturday, August 14

Pamper the Campers Cook-Out Seven Lakes State Park

Saturday, August 28

One Pot Potluck Cook-off Leelenau State Park

Saturday, September 11

One Pot Potluck Cook Off Traverse City State Park

Outdoor Explorer Guide Programs

June - September

Sleepy Hollow State Park

Saturday, June 19

Explore the Outdoors Bewabic State Park

June 25-26

Explorer Weekend Harrisville State Park

Outdoor Skills 101

Saturdays, June 12, 19 and 26

Outdoor Skills Program Onaway State Park

Saturday, June 19

Beach Survival Challenge Grand Haven State Park

Saturday, June 26

Becoming an Outdoors Woman Island Lake Recreation Area

Saturday, July 24

Outdoor Photography Clinic P. J. Hoffmaster State Park

Thursday, August 19

Starry Nights

P. J. Hoffmaster State Park

Saturday, August 21

Rifle River Survivor

Rifle River Recreation Area

Sunday, September 12

Fall Mount Baldy Hill Climb Silver Lake State Park

Family Outdoor Events

June to Labor Day

Barry County Transit Authority Trolley Tours Yankee Springs Recreation Area

Saturday, June 12

Car Show

South Higgins Lake State Park

Go Fly a Kite

Rifle River Recreation Area

Saturday, June 19

Wooden Boat Show

Presque Isle Harbor

Family Fun Day Straits State Park

Sunday, July 4

4th of July Bike Parade

Traverse City State Park

Saturday, July 17

Sand Sculpture Contest

Petoskey State Park

River Hawk Rumble

Proud Lake Recreation Area

Saturday-Sunday, July 24-25

Annual Hot Air Balloon Festival

Seven Lakes State Park

Saturday, August 7

Motorcycle Show/Poker Run

Newaygo State Park

Saturday-Sunday, August 7-8

Saginaw Bay Waterfowl Festival Bay City State Recreation Area

Friday, August 13

Sand Sculpture Contest

Charles Mears State Park

Saturday, August 14

Dinosaur Egg Hunt Pinckney Recreation Area

Waterfront Games Straits State Park

Saturday, August 21

Hee Haw Hoedown Bay City State Recreation Area

Saturday, August 28

Hootenanny Proud Lake Recreation Area

Saturday, September 4

Talent Show Wilderness State Park

Monday, September 6

Labor Day Bridge Walk Traverse City State Park

Saturday, September 11

Bluegrass Bonfire Pinckney Recreation Area

Fall Harvests and Haunts

More than 75 events take place throughout the fall to give your family the opportunity to experience the outdoors while enjoying the last days of summer with fall harvests, hayrides and hauntingly good times. Stay tuned for the announcement of Fall Festivals and other events taking place at your Michigan state parks and recreation areas.

These are just some of the great outdoor events available for you or your family at Michigan state parks and recreation areas. For a complete list of events, visit www.michigan.gov/dnrgogetoutdoors.